Difficulties faced by exporters due to lack of funds with C.C.I.E.

2644. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that due to lack of funds with C.C.I.E. many deemed exporters have not got their dues under the CCS and supplementary CCS in lieu of Duty Drawback from C.C.I.E.;

(b) if so, whether Government are aware that because of this many companies are facing difficulties with their bankers and Custom Authorities of the Finance Ministry on loan advances and imports;

(c) whether Government have evolved any policy to protect the interest of such companies so that they will not get wiped out due to lack of funds;

(d) whether Government have instructed the Nationalised Banks and Customs Department to be sympathetic and lenient to the companies affected by the lack of funds with C.C.I.E.;

(e) whether it is a fact that many "Deemed Exporters" are likely to claim interest on their outstanding dues; and

(f) if so, what is Government's stand on these issues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Efforts are being made to clear out the pending CCS dues, as early as possible.

(d) RBI has since been requested to advise the Nationalised Banks to take sympathetic and lenient view.

(e) and (f) The scheme of CCS does not envisage any compensation for late disbursement and hence the question of claiming interest on the outstanding dues does not arise.

Determining the quantitative requirements of imports

2645. SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN:
SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the authority that determines the quantitative requirements of inputs allowed for import against advance licences for export production;

(b) what is the *locus standi* of such an authority;

(c) what are the details of instances where his Ministry found that imports allowed is much more than actual requirements during the last three years, year-wise;

(d) what was the extent of difference in respect of leading items of export;

(e) whether it is also a fact that this resulted in loss of foreign exchange and generation of black money; and

(f) what steps have been taken to investigate the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Imports are governed by the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, 1947 and Import & Export Policy framed thereunder. The Customs Duties on imports are governed by Customs Act, 1962. Quantitative requirements of duty free imports for raw material, components and consumable for manufacture of goods to be exported under the Advance Licensing Scheme are thus determined by Inter-Ministerial/Inter-Departmental Committees comprising of the representatives of Chief Controller of Imports and Exports/Director General of International Trade/Technical Departments (Director General of Technical Development, Development Commissioner/Small Scale Industries/Department of Electronics/Textile Commissioner/Department of Economic Affairs, Department of Steel etc.,) and the Department of Revenue.

(c) and (d) At the time of fixation of norms it has always been the endeavour to fix the norms for the required inputs in appropriate and reasonable quantities required for the product to be exported. However, norms fixed at a particular point of time may undergo change/modification/improvements in the course of passage of time due to continuous R & D efforts, improvements in technology process/modernisation. Therefore, after passage of some time the norms fixed earlier could appear to be in excess when compared with the latest norms fixed after taking into account the latest technological changes/upgradation. This may result into the difference in input output consumptions. However, as and when it is felt that the earlier norms are required to be changed, immediate corrective steps are taken by issuing Public Notices, the copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

(e) and (f) No, Sir. The process of revising norms is a continuous one.

Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority

@ 2646. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Exports Development Authority participated in the recently concluded Gulf Food Exhibition held in Dubai; and

(b) if so, the details of orders bagged by it and the total amount thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Export is an on-going process and the total amount of orders likely to be finalised cannot be estimated. However, business of over Rs.15 crores has been reported by the exporters to have been generated at the fair itself.

@Previously unstarred Question 2128, transferred from the 12th December, 1991.

Order by Bangladesh to contraband Indian Goods

2647. SHRIMATI BASANTI SHARMA:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Bangladesh has allegedly ordered the seizing of contraband Indian goods from shopping centres after December 15, 1991;

(b) if so, what are the informations Government have received in this connection;

(c) whether Government have any information that some shopkeepers have even brought out processions protesting against that Government's alleged bid to paint them as smugglers; and

(d) what are the goods involved and what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) The Government of Bangladesh has proclaimed that it would be launching anti-smuggling operations against contraband goods from all countries held in shops and marketing centres from 17th December, 1991. There have also been demands in some quarters in Bangladesh to check smuggling activities in Indian textile products.

(c) According to information received, shop owners in Dhaka have decided to observe token strike and close shops daily for two hours from 10th December, 1991 against the anti-smuggling activities of that Government.

(d) It is always the policy of the Government to check smuggling of goods into or from India. Goods smuggled from India generally include cattle, sarees, cigarettes, sugar and motor parts.